

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCEM-02 SSO-00 CCO-00 EB-11 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FPC-01 RSR-01 NSCE-00

NSC-10 SS-15 DODE-00 INRE-00 /069 W
----- 002518

O R 062255 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3691

INFO USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 1211

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ENRG, BPRO, ETRD, CS

SUBJECT: ENERGY CRISIS COMPLAINTS AGAINST U. S. SUB- CONTRACTOR
HANDLING INSTALLATION OF THERMAL TURBINES

REF: SAN JOSE 1173, 1194, 1198

1. EARLIER GOCR OPTIMISM ABOUT AVOIDING WORST
IMPLICATIONS OF POWER CRISIS WAS BASED ON PUBLISHED
REPORTS THAT THE FIRST OF TWO DIESEL TURBINES NOW
BEING INSTALLED WILL BE OPERATING APRIL 9 AND THE
SECOND, ONE WEEK LATER. HOWEVER, ON CONTACTING
A HIGH ELECTRICITY INSTITUTE OFFICIAL TODAY, THAT
OFFICIAL SAID THAT THERE IS NO REAL ASSURANCE THAT THE
FIRST TURBINE WILL BE DELIVERED ON APRIL 9, NOR THE
SECOND AT THE TIME PROMISED. HE COMPLAINED OF
A " CHAOTIC" SITUATION IN REGARD TO THE SERVICES
BEING SUPPLIED BY THE U. S. SUB- CONTRACTING
FIRM, TOOMBLY ASSOCIATES. THE OFFICIAL ADDED
THAT THE COMPANY'S POOR PERFORMANCE HAS LED TO GREAT
FRICTION WITH AEG OF WEST GERMANY -- THE SUPPLIER AND
PRIME CONTRACTOR. HE COMPLAINED THAT THE SMALL
RATHER INADEQUATE TOOMBLY STAFF IS MERELY
WORKING ON A " BUSINESS AS USUAL" BASIS IN SPITE
OF THE CRISIS ATMOSPHERE. HE SAID THAT TOOMBLY HAS
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MADE SEVERAL SUCCESSIVE PROMISES OF DELIVERY
WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN KEPT AND HE DOUBTS WHETHER THE
PRESENT PROMISE IS RELIABLE.

2. THE EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO CHECK THIS
STATEMENT WITH TOOMBLY REPRESENTATIVES HERE AND
IT MAY WELL BE THAT ICE ITSELF HAD BEEN GREATLY AT
FAULT. WE PROPOSE TO SPEAK TO THE U. S. PROJECT
MANAGER HERE ASAP AND TO INVESTIGATE FIRST- HAND
WHAT MIGHT BE DONE TO EXPEDITE THE INSTALLATION OF
THE TURBINES.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: MEANWHILE, IN VIEW OF
LOCAL POWER EMERGENCY, DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED
TO CONTACT IMMEDIATELY MR. VERNON TOOMBLY IN
EMERSON, NEW JERSEY, (TEL: 201-391-0950)
TO EXPLAIN THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE POWER CRISIS AND
WITHOUT ENTERING MERITS OF COMPLAINT TO EXPRESS
THE HOPE THAT EVERY MEASURE POSSIBLE IS BEING
TAKEN TO RUSH THE TURBINES TO COMPLETION,
VAKY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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